

Within thirty (30) days after completion of the inspection and testing, the borrower (acting through its engineer, if applicable) will prepare a report of the inspection and testing, obtain a copy of the report from its engineer, and submit a copy to the contractor. This report must include a detailed description of the methods of conducting the test(s), observed data, comparison of guaranteed and actual performance, and recommendations concerning acceptance. The borrower will obtain from the engineer a written certification stating that the equipment has been installed, placed in satisfactory operation and tested, and meets the contract requirements. Where more than one-hundred and eighty (180) days have elapsed since the delivery of the equipment and the equipment has not been installed or tested, the contract may be closed out upon certification by the engineer that the equipment has been inspected and appears to be in accordance with the contract requirements.

(b) *Final inspection of construction.* The borrower will require the contractor to notify its engineer when construction of a section of the project is complete. The borrower (acting through its engineer, if applicable) will schedule such final inspection at a time mutually agreeable to the borrower, its engineer, contractor, and the respective GFR, if the GFR has notified the borrower or its engineer of a desire to observe the final inspection. The borrower (acting through its engineer, if applicable) will perform a final inspection of the construction of that section of the project and notify the contractor of any required changes or corrections.

(c) *Closeout documents.* (1) Upon satisfactory completion of construction of a section of the project (including all changes and corrections by the contractor), the borrower (acting through its engineer, if applicable) will obtain executed copies of the following documents:

- (i) RUS Form 792b, Certificate of Contractor and Indemnity Agreement
- (ii) RUS Form 213, "Buy American" certificate.

(iii) Certification by the project engineer in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, if applicable.

(iv) Final design documents, as outlined in part 1724 of this chapter.

(2) *Distribution of closeout documents.*

(i) The borrower will retain one copy of each of the documents identified in paragraph (c)(1) of this section in accordance with applicable RUS requirements regarding retention of records.

(ii) For contracts not subject to RUS approval, the closeout is not subject to RUS approval and the closeout documents need not be sent to RUS unless specifically requested by RUS.

§ 1726.405 Inventory of work orders (RUS Form 219).

Upon completion of the contract closeout, the borrower shall complete RUS Form 219, Inventory of Work Orders, in accordance with part 1717, Post-Loan Policies and Procedures Common to Insured and Guaranteed Electric Loans, of this chapter.

PART 1728—ELECTRIC STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION

Sec.

1728.10 General purpose and scope.

1728.20 Establishment of standards and specifications.

1728.30 Inclusion of an item for listing or technical acceptance.

1728.40 Procedure for submission of a proposal.

1728.50 Removal of an item from listing or technical acceptance.

1728.60 List of materials and equipment.

1728.70 Procurement of materials.

1728.97 Incorporation by reference of electric standards and specifications.

1728.201 RUS Bulletin 1728H-701, RUS Specification for Wood Crossarms (Solid and Laminated), Transmission Timbers and Pole Keys.

1728.202 RUS Bulletin 1728H-702, RUS Specification for Quality Control and Inspection of Timber Products.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, 1921 *et seq.*, 6941 *et seq.*

§ 1728.10 General purpose and scope.

(a) The requirements of this part are based on contractual provisions between RUS and the organizations which receive financial assistance from RUS.

§ 1728.20

(b) RUS will establish certain specifications and standards for materials, equipment, and construction units that will be acceptable for RUS financial assistance for the electric program. Materials and equipment purchased by the electric borrowers or accepted as contractor-furnished material must conform to RUS standards and specifications where they have been established and, if included in RUS Bulletin 43-5, "List of Materials Acceptable for Use on Systems of RUS Electrification Borrowers" (List of Materials), must be selected from that list or must have received technical acceptance from RUS. RUS, through its Technical Standards Committees, will evaluate certain materials, equipment and construction units, and will determine acceptance.

[50 FR 47710, Nov. 20, 1985. Redesignated at 55 FR 39395, Sept. 27, 1990]

§ 1728.20 Establishment of standards and specifications.

(a) *National and other standards.* RUS will utilize standards of national standardizing groups, such as the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), American Wood Preservers' Association (AWPA), the various national engineering societies and the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), to the greatest extent practical. When there are no national standards or when RUS determines that the existing national standards are not adequate for rural electric systems, RUS will prepare standards for material and equipment to be used on systems of electric borrowers. RUS standards and specifications will be codified or listed in § 1728.97, Incorporation by Reference of Electric Standards and Specifications. RUS will also prepare specifications for materials and equipment when it determines that such specifications will result in reduced costs, improved materials and equipment, or in the more effective use of engineering services.

(b) *Deviations from Standards.* No member of the RUS staff will be permitted to authorize deviations from the standard specifications, or to establish or change the technical standards, or to authorize the use of items that have not received acceptance by the Technical Standards Committees, except as provided for under § 1728.70, or

7 CFR Ch. XVII (1-1-04 Edition)

by authorization and/or delegation of authority by the Administrator of RUS.

(c) *Category of Items.* Items appearing in the List of Materials are listed by categories of generic items which are used in RUS construction standards incorporated by reference in § 1728.97. RUS will establish and define these categories and will establish all criteria for acceptability within these categories.

[50 FR 47710, Nov. 20, 1985. Redesignated at 55 FR 39395, Sept. 27, 1990, and amended at 55 FR 53487, Dec. 31, 1990]

§ 1728.30 Inclusion of an item for listing or technical acceptance.

(a) *Scope.* RUS, through its Technical Standards Committees "A" and "B" will determine the acceptability of certain standards, standard specifications, standard drawings, and items of materials and equipment to be used in transmission, distribution and general plant (excluding office equipment, tools, and work equipment, and consumer-owned electric wiring facilities).

(b) *Addresses of Committees.* The address of Technical Standards Committee "A" is: Chairman, Technical Standards Committee "A" (Electric), Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1500. The address of Technical Standards Committee "B" is: Chairman, Technical Standards Committee "B" (Electric), Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1500.

(c) *Review by Technical Standards Committee "A".* All proposals for listing a product in the List of Materials must be addressed to Technical Standards Committee "A." This committee will consider all proposals made by sponsors of specifications, drawings, materials, or equipment in categories for which RUS has established criteria for acceptability. A sponsor may be a manufacturer, supplier, contractor or any other person or organization which has made an application for listing or has requested an action by the committee. Committee "A" will consider all relevant information presented in determining whether an item should be accepted by Technical Standards Committee "A." Formal rules of evidence